98th Congress, 1st Session - - - - - - - House Document No. 98-21

CARIBBEAN BASIN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND FACILITATE EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN BASIN REGION

FEBRUARY 22, 1983.—Message and accompanying papers referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

11-011 O WASHINGTON : 1983

H780-4

To the Congress of the United States:

Last year I proposed a major new program for economic cooperation for the Caribbean Basin. I am pleased to report that the aid portion of the Caribbean Basin Initiative was acted upon last year, and that the region has already reaped some of the benefits from the $350 million of this emergency assistance. However, while the House of Representatives also approved the trade and tax portions of this integrated program, Congress adjourned before favorable consideration could take place in the Senate. Today I am transmitting to the Congress for swift action the trade and tax plan as approved by a majority of members during the last session.

The economic, political, and security challenges in the Caribbean Basin are formidable. Our neighbors are struggling to keep up with the rapidly changing global economic system, while striving to develop or nurture representative and responsive institutions. These tasks would be burden enough for any nation, but they are also being forced to defend themselves against attempts by externally-supported minorities to impose an alien, hostile, and unworkable system upon them by force. These challenges must be faced foursquare. The alternative is further expansion of political violence from the extreme left and the extreme right, leading inevitably to further economic decline, and more human suffering and dislocation.

The economic crisis facing most of the Basin countries is acute. Deteriorating trade opportunities, worldwide recession, mounting debt burdens, growing unemployment, and deep-seated structural problems are having a catastrophic impact throughout the region. These developments have forced thousands of people to emigrate and have left even the most established democracies severely shaken. This is a crisis we cannot afford to ignore.

The emergency funding approved last year has helped these fragile economies cope with their mounting balance of payments problems. I must stress, however, that the trade and tax portions I am transmitting today are designed to improve the lives of the peoples of the Caribbean Basin by enabling them to earn their own way to a better future. At the same time, given the interdependence between U.S. and Caribbean Basin economics, this bill will also benefit the U.S. by expanding markets for our exports and hence improving U.S. job opportunities. It should also reduce the pressures of economically-inspired immigration into this country from the region.

Thanks to the cooperative, bipartisan spirit with which this program has been considered, and the changes that were made last year by Congress to ensure beyond any doubt adequate safeguards for domestic interests, I am hopeful that the Caribbean Basin Initiative will be acted upon with maximum speed by the Congress.

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 18, 1983.*

A BILL To promote economic revitalization and facilitate expansion of economic opportunities in the Caribbean Basin region

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act".

TITLE I—DUTY-FREE TREATMENT

SEC. 101. AUTHORITY TO GRANT DUTY-FREE TREATMENT.

The President may proclaim duty-free treatment for all eligible articles from any beneficiary country in accordance with the provisions of this title.

SEC. 102. BENEFICIARY COUNTRY.

(a) (1) For purposes of this title—

(A) The term "beneficiary country" means any country listed in subsection (b) with respect to which there is in effect a proclamation by the President designating such country as a beneficiary country for purposes of this title. Before the President designates any country as a beneficiary country for purposes of this title, he shall notify the House of Representatives and the Senate of his intention to make such designation, together with the considerations entering into such decision.

(B) The term "entered" means entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States.

(C) The term "TSUS" means Tariff Schedules of the United States (19 U.S.C. 1202).

(2) If the President has designated any country as a beneficiary country for purposes of this title, he shall not terminate such designation (either by issuing a proclamation for that purpose or by issuing a proclamation which has the effect of terminating such designation) unless, at least sixty days before such termination, he has notified the House of Representatives and the Senate and has notified such country of his intention to terminate such designation, together with the considerations entering into such decision.

(b) In designating countries as "beneficiary countries" under this title, the President shall consider only the following countries and territories or successor political entities:

Anguilla
Antigua and Barbuda
Bahamas, The
Barbados
Belize
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
El Salvador
Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Jamaica
Nicaragua
Panama
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Surinam
Trindad and Tobago
Cayman Islands
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles
Saint Christopher-Nevis
Turks and Caicos Islands
Virgin Islands, British

In addition, the President shall not designate any country a beneficiary country under this title—

(1) if such country is a Communist country;

(2) if such country—

(A) has nationalized, expropriated, or otherwise seized ownership or control of property owned by a United States citizen or by a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 per centum or more beneficially owned by United States citizens,

(B) has taken steps to repudiate or nullify an existing contract or agreement with a United States citizen or a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 per centum or more beneficially owned by United States citizens, the effect of which is to nationalize, expropriate, or otherwise seize ownership or control of property so owned, or

(C) has imposed or enforced taxes or other exactions, restrictive maintenance or operational conditions, or other measures with respect to property so owned, the effect of which is to nationalize, expropriate, or otherwise seize ownership or control of such property, unless the President determines that—

(i) prompt, adequate, and effective compensation has been or is being made to such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association,

(ii) good-faith negotiations to provide prompt, adequate, and effective compensation under the applicable provisions of international law are in progress, or such country is otherwise taking steps to discharge its obligations under international law with respect to such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association, or

(iii) a dispute involving such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association, over compensation for such a seizure has been submitted to arbitration under the provisions of the Convention for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, or in another mutually agreed upon forum, and

promptly furnishes a copy of such determination to the Senate and House of Representatives;

(3) if such country fails to act in good faith in recognizing as binding or in enforcing arbitral awards in favor of United States citizens or a corporation, partnership or association which is 50 per centum or more beneficially owned by United States citizens, which have been made by arbitrators appointed for each case or by permanent arbitral bodies to which the parties involved have submitted their dispute;

(4) if such country affords preferential treatment to the products of a developed country, other than the United States, which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on United States commerce, unless the President has received assurances satisfactory to him that such preferential treatment will be eliminated or that action will be taken to assure that there will be no such significant adverse effect, and he reports those assurances to the Congress;

(5) if a government-owned entity in such country engages in the broadcast of copyrighted material, including films or television material, belonging to United States copyright owners without their express consent; and

(6) unless such country is a signatory to a treaty, convention, protocol, or other agreement regarding the extradition of United States citizens.

Paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not prevent the designation of any country as a beneficiary country under this Act if the President determines that such designation will be in the national economic or security interest of the United States and reports such determination to the Congress with his reasons therefor.

(c) In determining whether to designate any country a beneficiary country under this title, the President shall take into account—

(1) an expression by such country of its desire to be so designated;

(2) the economic conditions in such country, the living standards of its inhabitants, and any other economic factors which he deems appropriate;

(3) the extent to which such country has assured the United States it will provide equitable and reasonable access to the markets and basic commodity resources of such country;

(4) the degree to which such country follows the accepted rules of international trade provided for under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as well as applicable trade agreements approved under section 2(a) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979;

(5) the degree to which such country uses export subsidies or imposes export performance requirements or local content requirements which distort international trade;

(6) the degree to which the trade policies of such country as they relate to other beneficiary countries are contributing to the revitalization of the region;

(7) the degree to which such country is undertaking self-help measures to promote its own economic development;

(8) the degree to which workers in such country are afforded reasonable workplace conditions and enjoy the right to organize and bargain collectively;

(9) the extent to which such country prohibits its nationals from engaging in the broadcast of copyrighted material, including films or television material, belonging to United States copyright owners without their express consent; and

(10) the extent to which such country is prepared to cooperate with the United States in the administration of the provisions of this title.

(d) General headnote 3(a) of the TSUS (relating to products of the insular possessions) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following paragraph:

"(iv) subject to the provisions in section 103 of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, articles which are imported from insular possessions of the United States shall receive duty treatment no less favorable than the treatment afforded such articles when they are imported from a beneficiary country under such Act.".

(e) The President shall, after complying with the requirements of subsection (a)(2), withdraw or suspend the designation of any country as a beneficiary country if, after such designation, he determines that as the result of changed circumstances such country would be barred from designation as a beneficiary country under subsection (b).

SEC. 103. ELIGIBLE ARTICLES.

(a)(1) Unless otherwise excluded from eligibility by this title, the duty-free treatment provided under this title shall apply to any article which is the growth, product, or manufacture of a beneficiary country if—

(A) that article is imported directly from a beneficiary country into the customs territory of the United States; and

(B) the sum of (i) the cost or value of the materials produced in a beneficiary country or two or more beneficiary countries, plus (ii) the direct costs of processing operations performed in a beneficiary country or countries is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of such article at the time it is entered.

For purposes of determining the percentage referred to in subparagraph (B), the term "beneficiary country" includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands. If the cost or value of materials produced in the customs territory of the United States (other than the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) is included with respect to an article to which this paragraph applies, an amount not to exceed 15 percent of the appraised value of the article at the time it is entered that is attributable to such United States cost or value may be applied toward determining the percentage referred to in subparagraph (B).

(2) The Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this subsection including, but not limited to, regulations providing that, in order to be eligible for duty-free treatment under this title, an article must be wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a beneficiary country, or must be a new or different article of commerce which has been grown, produced, or manufactured in the beneficiary country; but no article or material of a beneficiary country shall be eligible for such treatment by virtue of having merely undergone—

(A) simple combining or packaging operations, or

(B) mere dilution with water or mere dilution with another substance that does not materially alter the characteristics of the article.

(3) As used in this subsection, the phrase "direct costs of processing operations" includes, but is not limited to—

(A) all actual labor costs involved in the growth, production, manufacture, or assembly of the specific merchandise, including fringe benefits, on-the-job training and the cost of engineering, supervisory, quality control, and similar personnel; and

(B) dies, molds, tooling, and depreciation on machinery and equipment which are allocable to the specific merchandise.

Such phrase does not include costs which are not directly attributable to the merchandise concerned or are not costs of manufacturing the product, such as (i) profit, and (ii) general expenses of doing business which are either not allocable to the specific merchandise or are not related to the growth, production, manufacture, or assembly of

the merchandise, such as administrative salaries, casualty and liability insurance, advertising, and salesmen's salaries, commission or expenses.

(b) The duty-free treatment provided under this title shall not apply to—

(1) textile and apparel articles which are subject to textile agreements;

(2) footwear, handbags, luggage, flat goods, work gloves, and leather wearing apparel not designated at the time of the effective date of this title as eligible articles for the purpose of the Generalized System of Preferences under title V of the Trade Act of 1974;

(3) tuna, prepared or preserved in any manner, in airtight containers; or

(4) petroleum, or any product derived from petroleum, provided for in part 10 of schedule 4 of the TSUS.

(c) (1) As used in this subsection—

(A) The term "sugar and beef products" means—

(i) sugars, sirups, and molasses provided for in items 155.20 and 155.30 of the TSUS, and

(ii) articles of beef or veal, however provided for in subpart B of part 2 of schedule 1 of the TSUS.

(B) The term "Plan" means a Stable Food Production Plan that consists of measures and proposals designed to ensure that the present level of food production in, and the nutritional level of the population of, a beneficiary country will not be adversely affected by changes in land use and land ownership that will result if increased production of sugar and beef products is undertaken in response to the duty-free treatment extended under this title to such products. A Plan must specify such facts regarding, and such proposd actions by, a beneficiary country as the President deems necessary for purposes of carrying out this subsection, including but not limited to—

(i) the current levels of food production and nutritional health of the population;

(ii) current levels of production and export of sugar and beef products;

(iii) expected increases in production and export of sugar and beef products as a result of the duty-free access to the United States market provided under this title;

(iv) measures to be taken to ensure that the expanded production of those products because of such duty-free access will not occur at the expense of staple food production; and

(v) proposals for a system to monitor the impact of such duty-free access on staple food production and land use and land ownership patterns.

(2) Duty-free treatment extended under this title to sugar and beef products that are the product of a beneficiary country shall be suspended by the President under this subsection if—

(A) the beneficiary country, within the 90-day period beginning on the date of its designation as such a country under section 102, does not submit a Plan to the President for evaluation;

(B) on the basis of his evaluation, the President determines that the Plan of a beneficiary country does not meet the criteria set forth in paragraph (1) (B); or

(C) as a result of the monitoring of the operation of the Plan under paragraph (5), the President determines that a beneficiary country is not making a good faith effort to implement its Plan, or that the measures and proposals in the Plan, although being implemented, are not achieving their purposes.

(4) Before the President suspends duty-free treatment by reason of paragraph (2) (A), (B), or (C) to the sugar and beef products of a beneficiary country, he must offer to enter into consultation with the beneficiary country for purposes of formulating appropriate remedial action which may be taken by that country to avoid such suspension. If the beneficiary country thereafter enters into consultation within a reasonable time and undertakes to formulate remedial action in good faith, the President shall withhold the suspension of duty-free treatment on the condition that the remedial action agreed upon be appropriately implemented by that country.

(4) The President shall monitor on a biennial basis the operation of the Plans implemented by beneficiary countries, and shall submit a written report to Congress by March 15 following the close of each biennium, that—

(A) specifies the extent to which each Plan, and remedial actions, if any, agreed upon under paragraph (4), have been implemented; and

(B) evaluates the results of such implementation.

(5) The President shall terminate any suspension of duty-free treatment imposed under this subsection if he determines that the beneficiary country has taken appropriate action to remedy the factors on which the suspension was based.

(d) For such period as there is in effect a proclamation issued by the President pursuant to the authority vested in him by section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 624) to protect a price-support program for sugar beets and sugar cane, the importation and duty-free treatment of sugars, sirups, and molasses classified under items 155.20 and 155.30 of the TSUS shall be governed in the following manner:

(1)(A) For all beneficiary countries, except those subject to subparagraph (B and paragraph (2), duty-free treatment shall be provided in the same manner as it is provided pursuant to title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461 et seq.), at the time of the effective date of this title; except that the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture, may suspend or adjust upward the value limitation provided for in section 504(c)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 on the duty-free treatment afforded to beneficiary countries under this section if he finds that such adjustment will not interfere with the price support program for sugar beets and sugar cane and is appropriate in light of market conditions.

(B) As an alternative to subparagraph (A), the President may, at the request of a beneficiary country not subject to paragraph (2) and upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture, elect to permit sugar, sirups, and molasses from that country to enter duty-free during a calendar year subject to quantitative limitations to be established by the President on the quantity of sugar, sirups, and molasses entered from that country.

(2) For the following countries whose exports of sugar, sirups, and molasses in 1981 were not eligible for duty-free treatment because of the operation of section 504(c) of the Trade Act of 1974, the quantity of sugar, sirups, and molasses which may be entered in any calendar year shall be limited to no more than the quantity specified below:

Metric tons:	
Dominican Republic	780,000
Guatemala	210,000
Panama	160,000

Such sugar, sirups, and molasses shall be admitted free of duty, except as provided for in paragraph (3).

(3) The President, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture, may suspend or adjust upward the quantitative limitations imposed under paragraph (1)(B) or (2) if he determines such action will not interfere with the price support program for sugar beets and sugar cane and is appropriate in light of market conditions. The President, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture, may suspend the duty-free treatment for all or part of the quantity of sugar, sirups, and molasses permitted to be entered by paragraphs (1)(B) and (2) if such action is necessary to protect the price-support program for sugar beets and sugar cane.

(4) Any quantitative limitation imposed on a beneficiary country under paragraph (1)(B) or (2) shall apply only to the extent that such limitation permits a lesser quantity of sugar, sirups and molasses to be entered from that country than the quantity that would be permitted to be entered under any other provision of law.

(e)(1) The President may by proclamation suspend the duty-free treatment provided by this title with respect to any eligible article and may proclaim a duty rate for such article if such action is proclaimed pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 or section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. Any proclamation issued pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 that is in effect when duty-free treatment pursuant to section 101 of this title is proclaimed shall remain in effect until modified or terminated.

(2) In any report by the International Trade Commission to the President under section 201(d)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 regarding any article for which duty-free treatment has been proclaimed by the President pursuant to this title, the Commission shall state whether and to what extent its findings and recommendations apply to such article when imported from beneficiary countries. With respect to any article which is subject to import relief in effect at the time duty-free treatment is proclaimed pursuant to section 101 of this title, the President may reduce or terminate the application of such import relief to imports from beneficiary countries prior to its otherwise scheduled date pursuant to the criteria and procedures of subsections (h) and (i) of section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974.

(3) For purposes of subsections (a) and (c) of section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, the suspension of the duty-free treatment provided by this title shall be treated as an increase in duty.

(4) No proclamation which provides solely for a suspension referred to in paragraph (3) of this subsection with respect to any article shall be made under subsection (a) and (c) of section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 unless the United States International Trade

Commission, in addition to making an affirmative determination with respect to such article under section 201(b) of the Trade Act of 1974, determines in the course of its investigation under section 201(b) that the serious injury (or threat thereof) substantially caused by imports to the domestic industry producing a like or directly competitive article results from the duty-free treatment provided by this title.

(f)(1) If a petition is filed with the International Trade Commission pursuant to the provisions of section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974 regarding a perishable product and alleging injury from imports from beneficiary countries, then the petition may also be filed with the Secretary of Agriculture with a request that emergency relief be granted pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection with respect to such article.

(2) Within fourteen days after the filing of a petition under paragraph (1) of this subsection—

(A) if the Secretary of Agriculture has reason to believe that a perishable product from a beneficiary country is being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or the threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing a perishable product like or directly competitive with the imported product and that emergency action is warranted, he shall advise the President and recommend that the President take emergency action; or

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture shall publish a notice of his determination not to recommend the imposition of emergency action and so advise the petitioner.

(3) Within seven days after the President receives a recommendation from the Secretary of Agriculture to take emergency action pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, he shall issue a proclamation withdrawing the duty-free treatment provided by this title or publish a notice of his determination not to take emergency action.

(4) The emergency action provided by paragraph (3) of this subsection shall cease to apply—

(A) upon the proclamation of import relief pursuant to section 202(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974,

(B) on the day the President makes a determination pursuant to section 203(b)(2) not to impose import relief,

(C) in the event of a report of the United States International Trade Commission containing a negative finding, on the day the Commission's report is submitted to the President, or

(D) whenever the President determines that because of changed circumstances such relief is no longer warranted.

(5) For purposes of this subsection, the term "perishable product" means—

(A) live plants provided for in subpart A of part 6 of schedule 1 of the TSUS;

(B) fresh or chilled vegetables provided for in items 135.10 through 138.42 of the TSUS;

(C) fresh mushrooms provided for in item 144.10 of the TSUS;

(D) fresh fruit provided for in items 146.10, 146.20, 146.30, 146.50 through 146.62, 146.90, 146.91, 147.03 through 147.33, 147.50 through 149.21 and 149.50 of the TSUS; and

(E) fresh cut flowers provided for in items 192.17, 192.18, and 192.21 of the TSUS.

(g) No proclamation issued pursuant to this title shall affect fees imposed pursuant to section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 624).

SEC. 104. MEASURES FOR PUERTO RICO AND UNITED STATES INSULAR POSSESSIONS.

(a) Effective with respect to articles entered on or after the effective date of this Act, general headnote 3(a) of the TSUS is amended—

(1) by amending clause (i)—

(A) by striking out "50 percent" and inserting in lieu thereof "70 percent", and

(B) by inserting after "total value", "(or more than 50 percent of their total value with respect to articles described in section 103(b) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act)"; and

(2) by amending clause (ii) by striking out "50 percent" and inserting in lieu thereof "70 percent".

(b) Item 813.31 of the TSUS is amended by striking out "4 liters" and inserting in lieu thereof "5 liters", and by inserting after "United States,", "and not more than 4 liters of which shall have been produced elsewhere than in such insular possessions,".

(c) If the sum of the amounts of taxes covered into the treasuries of Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands pursuant to section 7652(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 is reduced below the amount that would have been covered over if the imported rum had been produced in Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands, then the President shall consider compensation measures and, in this regard, may withdraw the duty-free treatment on rum provided by this title. The President shall submit a report to the Congress on the measures he takes.

(d) Section 1112 of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2582) is repealed.

(e) No action pursuant to this title may affect any tariff duty imposed by the Legislature of Puerto Rico pursuant to section 319 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1319) on coffee imported into Puerto Rico.

(f) For purposes of chapter 1 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, the term "industry" shall include producers located in the United States insular possessions.

(g) Any discharge from a point source in the United States Virgin Islands in existence on the date of the enactment of this subsection which discharge is attributable to the manufacture of rum (as defined in paragraph (3) of section 7652(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954) shall not be subject to the requirements of section 301 (other than toxic pollutant discharges), section 306 or section 403 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act if—

(1) such discharge occurs at least one thousand five hundred feet into the territorial sea from the line of ordinary low water from that portion of the coast which is in direct contact with the sea, and

(2) the Governor of the United States Virgin islands determines that such discharge will not interfere with the attainment

or maintenance or that water quality which shall assure protection of public water supplies, and the protection and propogation of a balanced population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife, and allow recreational activities, in and on the water and will not result in the discharge of pollutants in quantities which may reasonably be anticipated to pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment because of bioaccumulation, persistency in the environment, acute toxicity, chronic toxicity (including carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, or teratogenicity), or synergistic propensities.

SEC. 105. ITC REPORTS ON IMPACT OF THIS ACT.

(a) The United States International Trade Commission (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Commission") shall prepare, and submit to the Congress and to the President, a report regarding the economic impact of this Act on United States industries and consumers during—

(1) the twenty-four month period beginning with the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) each calendar year occurring thereafter until duty-free treatment under this title is terminated under section 106(b).

For purposes of this section, industries in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the insular possessions of the United States shall be considered to be United States industries.

(b)(1) Each report required under subsection (a) shall include, but not be limited to, an assessment by the Commission regarding—

(A) the actual effect, during the period covered by the report, of this Act on the United States economy generally as well as on those specific domestic industries which produce articles that are like, or directly competitive with, articles being imported into the United States from beneficiary countries; and

(B) the probable future effect which this Act will have on the United States economy generally, as well as on such domestic industries, before the provisions of this Act terminate.

(2) In preparing the assessments required under paragraph (1), the Commission shall, to the extent practicable—

(A) analyze the production, trade and consumption of United States products affected by this Act, taking into consideration employment, profit levels, and use of productive facilities with respect to the domestic industries concerned, and such other economic factors in such industries as it considers relevant, including prices, wages, sales, inventories, patterns of demand, capital investment, obsolescence of equipment, and diversification of production; and

(B describe the nature and extent of any significant change in employment, profit levels, and use of productive facilities, and such other conditions as it deems relevant in the domestic industries concerned, which it believes are attributable to this Act.

(c)(1) Each report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted to the Congress and to the President before the close of the nine-month period beginning on the day after the last day of the period covered by the report.

(2) The Commission shall provide opportunity for the submission by the public, either orally or in writing, or both, of information relating to matters that will be addressed in the reports.

SEC. 106. EFFECTIVE DATE OF TITLE AND TERMINATION OF DUTY-FREE TREATMENT.

(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This title shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) TERMINATION OF DUTY-FREE TREATMENT.—No duty-free treatment extended to beneficiary countries under this title shall remain in effect after September 30, 1995.

TITLE II—TAX PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. PAYMENT OF EXCISE TAXES COLLECTED ON RUM TO PUERTO RICO AND THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7652 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (relating to shipments to the United States) is amended by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(c) SHIPMENTS OF RUM TO THE UNITED STATES.—

"(1) EXCISE TAXES ON RUM COVERED INTO TREASURIES OF PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS.—All taxes collected under section 5001(a)(1) on rum imported into the United States (less the estimated amount necessary for payment of refunds and drawbacks) shall be covered into the treasuries of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

"(2) SECRETARY PRESCRIBES FORMULA.—The Secretary shall, from time to time, prescribe by regulation a formula for the division of such tax collections between Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and the timing and methods for transferring such tax collections.

"(3) RUM DEFINED.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'rum' means any article classified under item 169.13 or 169.14 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (19 U.S.C. 1202).

"(4) COORDINATION WITH SUBSECTIONS (a) AND (b).—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to any rum subject to tax under subsection (a) or (b)."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to articles imported into the United States after June 30, 1983.

SEC. 202. TREATMENT OF CARIBBEAN CONVENTIONS, ETC.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subsection (h) of section 274 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (relating to attendance at conventions, etc.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(5) TREATMENT OF CONVENTIONS IN CERTAIN CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'North American area' includes, with respect to any convention, seminar, or similar meeting, any beneficiary country if (as of the time such meeting begins)—

"(i) there is in effect a bilateral or multilateral agreement between such country and the United States providing for the

exchange of information between the United States and such country, and

"(ii) there is not in effect a finding by the Secretary that the tax laws of such country discriminate against conventions held in the United States.

"(B) BENEFICIARY COUNTRY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'beneficiary country' has the meaning given to such term by section 102(a)(1)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act; except that such term shall include Bermuda.

"(C) AUTHORITY TO CONCLUDE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary is authorized to negotiate and conclude an agreement for the exchange of information with any beneficiary country. An exchange of information agreement shall provide for the exchange of such information (not limited to information concerning nationals or residents of the United States or the beneficiary country) as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out and enforce the tax laws of the United States and the beneficiary country (whether criminal or civil proceedings), including information which may otherwise be subject to nondisclosure provisions of the local law of the beneficiary country such as provisions respecting bank secrecy and bearer shares. The exchange of information agreement shall be terminable by either country on reasonable notice and shall provide that information received by either country will be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) involved in the administration or oversight of, or in the determination of appeals in respect of, taxes of the United States or the beneficiary country and will be used by such persons or authorities only for such purposes.

"(D) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 6103.—Any exchange of information agreement negotiated under subparagraph (C) shall be treated as an income tax convention for purposes of section 6103(k)(4).

"(E) FINDINGS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.—Any finding by the Secretary under subparagraph (A)(ii) (and any termination thereof) shall be published in the Federal Register."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to conventons, seminars, or other meetings beginning after June 30, 1983.

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